

File

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

25 JULY 1961

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Tunisian developments

a) The Tunisian Defense Minister describes the present situation in the Bizerte area as still "dangerous" and claims the French are using the cease-fire to improve their position.

b) Some French troops are reported to have arrived on a warship whose main mission was to repatriate to France 300 families of French soldiers.

c) aid offers of men and military advisers were being received from "many countries" and government has decided to "accept in principle at least and at manageable levels."

2. East German refugees to West Berlin

In addition to the tightening of controls on the East-West Berlin sector border as well as along the border between East Germany and East Berlin, which has reduced the refugee flow, the East German regime is preparing to stage an all-out propaganda campaign against the "slave trade" allegedly organized by West German and American "head hunters" and also to show there is no food problem in East Germany.

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3. Tribal fighting flares
up in Iraq

A sizeable Iraqi military force was ordered to move into the northeastern part of the country on 24 July to assist the local gendarmerie in suppressing violent clashes among Kurdish tribes in the area. The fighting thus far has not taken on an anti-government character. The Kurdish leader Barzani, who has close Moscow ties, seems to be winning over rival tribes.

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MAP

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NOTES

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- A. Communist China is trying to get Ottawa's OK for a trade promotion mission to visit Canada next month. Peiping wants increased sales of Chinese goods and hopes to renegotiate its grain imports credits. A trade mission left Peiping yesterday for Melbourne where it will conduct similar negotiations with the Australians.
- B. The FBI reports that Moscow is planning to stage a World Peace Congress (time and place not yet firmed up) with the purpose of blaming the US for responsibility for world tensions.
- C. The Cuban television industry is suffering a critical shortage of spare parts which the Sino-Soviet bloc cannot alleviate before the first of the year.
- 50X1 [redacted] TV is Castro's principal domestic propaganda medium.
- D. The Soviet mission touring Latin America is now in Brazil and has offered to supply Soviet tractors and heavy machinery to Brazil. The Agriculture Minister has indicated that the offer will be accepted.

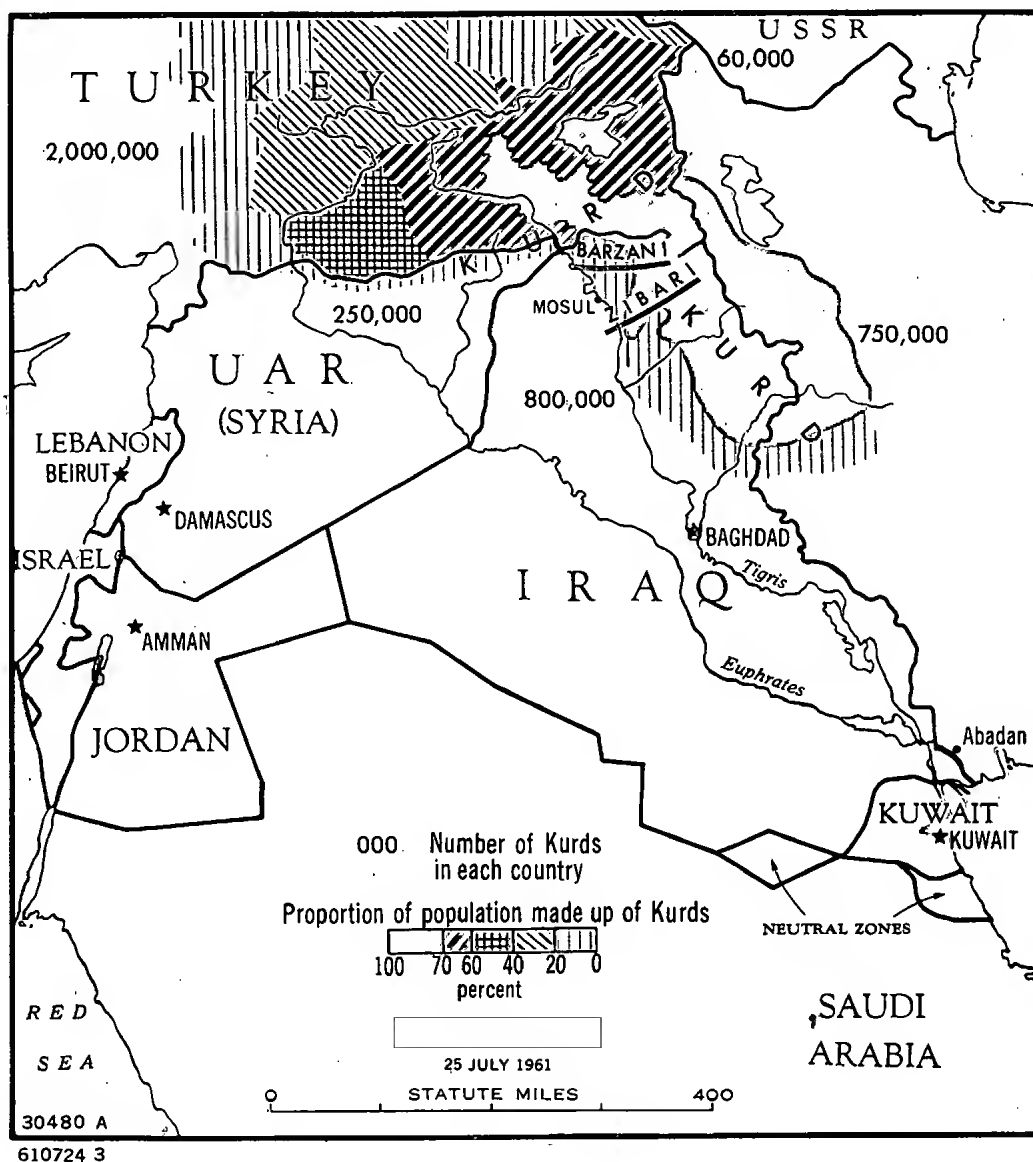
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